



**STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR THE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
LOS ANGELES COUNTY
HISTORICAL LANDMARKS AND RECORDS
COMMISSION**

**KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, ROOM 372
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012**

Friday, October 28, 2011

9:30 AM

Present: Chair Skelton, Vice Chair Duarte-White, Commissioner Sass and
Commissioner Sun

Excused: Commissioner Monteilh

I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

1. Meeting to be called to order by Chairman Skelton. (11-4406)

**The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Duarte-White at 10:05 a.m.
Chair Skelton joined the meeting at 10:40 a.m.**

2. Approval of July 15, 2011 Minutes. (11-4407)

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

3. Election of Vice-Chair for 2011. (11-3493)

**Commissioner Sass nominated Commissioner Duarte-White as Vice Chair.
There being no further nominations from the floor, nominations were
closed. On motion of Commissioner Sass, seconded by Commissioner
Sun and there being no objections, Commissioner Durate-White was
elected Vice Chair.**

4. Review and consideration of the Commission's 2012 meeting schedule.
(11-4665)

**Following discussion, on motion of Commission Sass and seconded by
Commissioner Sun, there being no objection, the Commission approved
the meeting schedule for 2012. The meetings are scheduled to be held in
Room 372 except for the July 13, 2012 meeting, which will be held in the
Department Head Room.**

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

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II. REPORTS

5. Chairman Skelton's Report for the meeting of October 28, 2011. (11-4408)

There were none.

6. Ex-Officio Member Reports for October 28, 2011. (11-4410)

There were none.

7. Staff Report for the meeting of October 28, 2011. (11-4409)

Nyla Jefferson, Staff, distributed the Employee Acknowledgement and Receipt of County Policy of Equity form for the Commissioners to sign. She also explained briefly the purpose of the Policy and reminded Commissioners an e-mail was previously distributed to them providing more detailed information.

III. PRESENTATIONS

8. Discussion and consideration of a request by Galvin Preservation Associates for public comments and information from the Commission regarding existing significant properties, structures, or sites within the High Desert Corridor Project in Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties, in compliance of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (36 CFR §800).

Noah Allison
Preservation Planner
Galvin Preservation Associates (11-4411)

There was no representative from Galvin Preservation Associates (GPA) to discuss the High Dessert Corridor Project. Chair Skelton stated it is not unusual, when construction is involved, for inquiries and requests to review properties to determine their historic significance to surface. Inquiries to historic organizations in the area are a way to obtain such information. Time did not allow the Chair to compare GPA maps with Google maps to determine if historical trails/structures/properties will be impacted by the High Dessert Corridor Project. After discussion, Staff was instructed to inquire with appropriate staff in Supervisor Antonovich's Office about historical locations that may be along the Corridor and report findings to Galvin Preservation Associates.

Attachments: [GALVIN PRESERVATION ASSOCIATES](#)
[HIGH DESERT CORRIDOR PROJECT DESCRIPTION](#)
[HIGH DESERT CORRIDOR AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECT 1](#)
[HIGH DESERT CORRIDOR AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECT 2](#)

9. Discussion and consideration to review and comment on the nomination of Maravilla Handball Court and El Centro Grocery to the California Register of Historical Resources located at 4787 Hammel Street, in the unincorporated area of Los Angeles County.

- Marcello Varala
Preservation Associate
Los Angeles Conservancy (11-4412)

Marcello Varala and Karina Muniz, Preservation Associates of the Los Angeles Conservancy, shared a presentation on the Maravilla Handball Court and El Centro Grocery located in the unincorporated area of East Los Angeles. Mr. Varala reported that the Handball Court was established around 1928, and in 1946 El Centro Grocery and a four-room residence were built adjacent to the court. Ms. Muniz stated that the LA Conservancy believes the building meets following criteria for placement on the California Register of Historical Resources.

1. **Criteria 1 – Social History and Ethnic Heritage - The Japanese American owners of the store, the Nishiyamas, were the pillar of the community. They held dances, provided credit to customers, were the central depository of money for events such as a funeral, and created a de facto social center for the small neighborhood for all generations of a diverse ethnic community.**
2. **Criteria 3 – Architecture - The buildings are an excellent, rare, and well-preserved example of a vernacular recreational building type handball court. The court is the oldest known handball court in Los Angeles and is a remarkable record of this vernacular recreational building type.**

Aminda Perez, a volunteer at the Maravilla Historical Society (MHS), reported that the present location is being leased from the Nishiyamas' son with the option to own by the MHS. Handball tournaments, displays of local talent art exhibits, and fundraisers are held to sustain the facility. There have been nominal modifications to the grocery store, the small home, and the handball court with the intent to bring the structures up to code. MHS is actively participating in documenting the buildings history and recording oral history from elderly residents.

To assist the MHS in generating revenue to fund projects, Bill Martinez, MHS Consultant, assists in preparing the grants targeting three areas that best suit the community. These areas include: 1) After school and weekend programs for youth; 2) Day and evening activities for the seniors, there are 3 senior facilities within walking distance from the Handball Courts; and 3) a learning lab to teach general community participants how to sustain their basic nutrition and renovating the market to sell quality

produce which will support the operation. Additionally, MHS plans to generate revenue and write grants to fund renovations to the structure and build a cooking lab.

Oral historical accounts were given by the following individuals, Laura Dominguez, Edwardo Reveles, George de la Rio, Kawiah Red Elk, Ginny D., Tony Haunte, Gilbert Sanchez and César, regarding the Maravilla Handball Court, grocery store, and the storeowners, the Nishiyamas.

Vice Chair Duarte-White and Commissioner Sun thanked everyone for their oral historical accounts and the Los Angeles Conservancy on the well prepared presentation.

After discussion and consideration, on motion of Commissioner Sass, seconded by Chair Skelton, there being no objection, the Commission joined in the nomination and registration of the Maravilla Handball Court and El Centro Grocery, as a historic resource in the California Register of Historical Resources, to be filed by the Los Angeles Conservancy and Maravilla Historical Society. In addition the Commission instructed staff to prepare a Board Letter requesting final approval of this recommendation.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)
 [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

IV. DISCUSSIONS

10. Discussion on the Commission's consideration to explore the possibilities of establishing a Citizen's Task Force to assist the Commission with future projects.
 - Chairman Skelton (11-3492)

Chair Skelton introduced the idea of forming a Citizen's Task Force that preferably consist of retirees that have an affection for history and have some researching skills. He asked the Commissioners to provide names of candidates, resumes or statement of qualifications. The Task Force will provide advisory assistance, support and further the goals of the Commission. Susan Broman, Library Administrator and Ex-Officio Member, mentioned the Task Force would have access to the Los Angeles County Public Library References Services Division for the special projects. Staff was asked to send Commission members a reminder to submit their candidate.

Following discussion, on motion of Chair Skelton, seconded by Commissioner Sun, there being no objection, the Commission approved the establishment of a Citizen's Task Force and agreed to proceed in the process of developing a list of candidates.

11. Recommendation: Receive and file correspondence from the Office of Historic Preservation regarding hearings scheduled for October 28, 2011 and November 11, 2011 by the State Historical Resources Commission related to nominations; and listings made to the National Register of Historic Places/California Register of Historic Resources for properties as indicated.

Nominations proposed:

- Hollywood High School (October 28, 2011)
- Karasik House (October 28, 2011)
- Bailey House (November 11, 2011)

Listings made:

- Olan G. and Aida T. Hafley House
- Lacey Homes Historic District
- Raymond-Summit Historic District
- Bristol-Cypress Historic District
- New Fair Oaks Historic District
- George Post House
- Denham House
- Hillmont/Romayne Williams
- Late 19th and Early 20th Century Architecture in Pasadena
- House at 1360 Lida Street House
- Hartwell House
- Ida Benjamin/Jarvis House
- James F. Cosby House
- J.H. Hood House
- Freeman/Allen House (11-3949)

Following review, by Common Consent there being no objection, the Commission received and filed the aforementioned correspondence from the Office of the Historical Preservation.

Attachments: [HOLLYWOOD HIGH SCHOOL](#)
[KARASIK HOUSE](#)
[BAILEY HOUSE](#)
[OLAN G. AND AIDA T. HAFLEY HOUSE](#)
[LACY HOMES HISTORIC DISTRICT](#)
[BRISTOL-CYPRESS HISTORIC DISTRICT](#)
[NEW FAIR OAKS HISTORIC DISTRICT](#)
[GEORGE POST HOUSE](#)
[DENHAM HOUSE](#)
[HILLMONT-ROMAYNE WILLIAMS](#)
[LATE 19TH EARLY 20TH CENTURY ARCHITECTURE IN PASADENA](#)
[HOUSE AT 1360 LIDA STREET](#)
[HARTWELL HOUSE](#)
[IDA BENJAMIN/JARVIS HOUSE](#)
[JAMES F. CROSBY HOUSE](#)
[JH HOOD HOUSE](#)
[FREEMAN-ALLEN HOUSE](#)

12. Discussion on the feasibility of establishing a Historic Preservation Ordinance in the unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County.

- Chairman Skelton (11-4417)

Following discussion and review of materials, Chair Skelton asked Commissioner Sass to prepare a letter to Richard J. Bruckner, Director of Regional Planning to obtain a status report on a Board Report dated September 26, 2005 regarding the Report on Historical Preservation and requested a joint session with Regional Planning staff to develop a process on how to proceed.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

V. MISCELLANEOUS

Matters Not Posted

13. Matters not posted on the posted agenda, to be discussed and (if requested) referred to staff or placed on the agenda for action at a future meeting, or matters requiring immediate action because of an emergency situation or where the need to take action came to the attention of the Commission subsequent to the posting of the agenda. (11-4413)

There were no matters presented for a future agenda.

Public Comment

14. Opportunity for members of the public to address the Commission on items of interest that are within the jurisdiction of the Commission. (11-4414)

There were no members of the public present to address the Commission.

Adjournment

15. Adjournment of the meeting of October 28, 2011. (11-4416)

The meeting of October 28, 2011 adjourned at 12:10 p.m.